



In the claims: The claims are as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A method ~~(30)~~ for ~~enabling or disabling~~ controlling an attribute of a communication channel used in respect to communication between a NodeB and a user equipment ~~(UE)~~ device, the NodeB operative according to control by a radio network controller ~~(RNC)~~ of a radio access network ~~(RAN)~~ using ~~System Information Block~~ system information blocks ~~(SIBs)~~ communicated between elements of the ~~RAN~~ radio access network and communicated to the ~~UE~~ user equipment device in radio contact with the ~~RAN~~ radio access network as a way of configuring the communication channels ~~channel~~ provided by the ~~RAN~~, the method characterized by comprising:

~~a step (35) in which the NodeB configures~~ configuring ~~itself for the communication channel for communication with the~~ UE user equipment device according to a trigger field ~~(40)~~ consisting of at least one bit ~~(41)~~ included in at least one of the ~~SIBs~~ system information blocks, wherein the ~~at least one bit (41) trigger field is predetermined to corresponds~~ correspond to the attribute so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

~~a step (35) in which the NodeB transmits~~ transmitting to the ~~UE~~ user equipment device the ~~SIB~~ system information block including the trigger field.

2. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, ~~the method~~ further characterized by a step (34) in which further comprising the ~~RNC~~ radio network controller ~~communicates~~ communicating to the NodeB information sufficient to indicate the trigger field.

3. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, further characterized by a step (36) in which comprising the ~~UE~~ user

equipment device ~~configures~~ configuring itself for communication with the NodeB according to the trigger field and ~~transmits~~ transmitting to the NodeB a confirmation or other response to receipt of the ~~SIB~~ system information block including the trigger field.

4. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 3, wherein the trigger field is used to prompt a response from the ~~UE~~ user equipment device, and the method ~~is further characterized by a step in which~~ further comprises the NodeB ~~completes~~ completing a procedure upon receipt of the response from the ~~UE~~ user equipment device.

5. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 3, further ~~characterized by a step in which~~ comprising, upon receipt of the response from the ~~UE~~ user equipment, the NodeB ~~communicates~~ communicating the response to the ~~RNC~~ radio network controller.

6. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, ~~further characterized in that~~ wherein the trigger field ~~(40)~~ consists of a plurality of bits ~~(41)~~ each of which corresponds to a predetermined attribute governing communication between the ~~UE~~ user equipment device and the NodeB, and one of each of the two possible bit values of the respective bits ~~(41)~~ is predetermined to indicate enabling the corresponding attribute.

7. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, ~~further characterized in that~~ wherein a plurality of ~~SIB~~ system information blocks are each used to convey a respective trigger field ~~(40)~~ and each such trigger field consists of at least one bit ~~(41)~~ predetermined to correspond to a respective attribute governing communication between the ~~UE~~ user equipment device and the NodeB.

8. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, ~~further characterized in that wherein~~ the trigger field ~~(40)~~ communicated to the NodeB by the ~~RNC~~ radio network controller is a limit trigger field consisting of a plurality of bits and understood by the NodeB to indicate not a particular set of attributes but instead a limit on a multi-valued attribute, and the method ~~is further characterized by steps (36 37 38 39), performed further comprises,~~ after the ~~RNC~~ radio network controller communicates to the NodeB the limit trigger field ~~(40)~~, ~~in which the NodeB repetitively communicates communicating~~ a value-setting trigger field ~~(40)~~ indicating a value within the limit set by the limit trigger field ~~(40)~~.

9. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 8, wherein the ~~UE~~ user equipment device responds to receipt of each of the value-setting trigger fields ~~(40)~~, and further wherein the communicating of the value-setting trigger fields ~~(40)~~ and corresponding responses ~~forming form~~ a closed loop message sequence involving the NodeB and the ~~UE~~ user equipment device but not involving the ~~RNC~~ radio network controller.

10. (Currently amended) A NodeB comprising ~~means so as to be operative according to the steps of the method of claim 1:~~

means for configuring a communication channel for communication with a user equipment device according to a trigger field consisting of at least one bit included in a system information block, wherein the trigger field is predetermined to correspond to an attribute of the communication channel so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

means for transmitting to the user equipment device the system information block including the trigger field.

11. (Currently amended) ~~An RNC comprising means so as to be operative according to respective steps of the method of claim 2A~~ radio network controller of a radio access network, comprising:

means for determining information sufficient to indicate a trigger field consisting of at least one bit included in a system information block, wherein the trigger field is predetermined to correspond to an attribute of a communication channel between a NodeB and a user equipment device so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

means for communicating the information to the NodeB for communication to the user equipment device.

12. (Currently amended) ~~A UE device comprising means so as to be operative according to respective steps of the method of claim 3~~ user equipment device, comprising:

means for receiving from a NodeB of a radio access network a trigger field consisting of at least one bit included in a system information block, wherein the trigger field is predetermined to correspond to an attribute of a communication channel used for communication between the NodeB and the user equipment device so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

means for configuring itself for communication with the NodeB according to the trigger field and for transmitting to the NodeB a confirmation or other response to receipt of the system information block including the trigger field.

13. (Currently amended) ~~A RAN, comprising an RNC and a plurality of NodeBs, the RNC and at least one NodeB each comprising means~~

~~so as to be operative according to respective steps of claim~~
2system, comprising:

a user equipment device;

a radio access network including at least one radio network controller and at least one NodeB operating under the control of the radio network controller and coupled to the user equipment device via cellular communication signals;

wherein the NodeB is as in claim 10.

14. (New) A NodeB, comprising a protocol stack, in turn comprising:

a higher level protocol layer, for configuring a communication channel for communication with a user equipment device according to a trigger field consisting of at least one bit included in a system information block, wherein the trigger field is predetermined to correspond to an attribute of the communication channel so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

a lowest level protocol layer, for transmitting to the user equipment device the system information block including the trigger field.

15. (New) A radio network controller of a radio access network, comprising a protocol stack, in turn comprising:

a higher level protocol layer, for determining information sufficient to indicate a trigger field consisting of at least one bit included in a system information block, wherein the trigger field is predetermined to correspond to an attribute of a communication channel between a NodeB and a user equipment device so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

a lowest level protocol layer, for communicating the information to the NodeB for communication to the user equipment device.

16. (New) A user equipment device, comprising a protocol stack, in turn comprising:

a lowest level protocol layer, for receiving from a NodeB of a radio access network a trigger field consisting of at least one bit included in a system information block, wherein the trigger field is predetermined to correspond to an attribute of a communication channel used for communication between the NodeB and the user equipment device so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

a higher level protocol layer, for configuring itself for communication with the NodeB according to the trigger field and for transmitting to the NodeB a confirmation or other response to receipt of the system information block including the trigger field.

17. (New) A system, comprising:

a user equipment device;

a radio access network including at least one radio network controller and at least one NodeB operating under the control of the radio network controller and coupled to the user equipment device via cellular communication signals;

wherein the NodeB comprises comprising a protocol stack, in turn comprising:

a higher level protocol layer, for configuring a communication channel for communication with the user equipment device according to a trigger field consisting of at least one bit included in a system information block, wherein the trigger

field is predetermined to correspond to an attribute of the communication channel so as to either enable or disable the attribute or set a value or a limit for the attribute; and

a lowest level protocol layer, for transmitting to the user equipment device the system information block including the trigger field.

18. (New) A method as in claim 1, wherein the system information blocks are broadcast.

19. (New) A method as in claim 1, wherein the system information blocks are one or more of eighteen different system information blocks that are broadcast.

20. (New) A NodeB as in claim 14, wherein the system information blocks are broadcast.

21. (New) A NodeB as in claim 14, wherein the system information blocks are one or more of eighteen different system information blocks that are broadcast.

22. (New) A user equipment device as in claim 16, wherein the system information blocks are broadcast.

23. (New) A user equipment device as in claim 16, wherein the system information blocks are one or more of eighteen different system information blocks that are broadcast.